

Nineteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

TODMORDEN

Rural District Council,

BY

J. LAWSON, B.A., M.B.,

UNIV., DUB.

Presented 3rd March, 1897.

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TODMORDEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Hebden Bridge, 17th February, 1897.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Nineteenth Annual Report, on the general state of health, and causes of sickness and death, in your District for the year 1896.

Appended to this Report are five Tables, together with three special ones, A, B and C, drawn up in accordance with orders from the Local Government Board and West Riding County Council, and giving such information as they desire.

Table 1 shows the number of deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases for ten years.

Table 2 shows mortality from all causes for ten years, at subjoined ages.

Table 3 shows births, deaths, birth-rates, death-rates, and number of deaths under one year, with rate per 1000 births, for ten years.

Table 4 shows mortality from different classes of disease for ten years.

Table 5 shows the births, deaths from all causes, and from certain special causes, with birth-rates and death-rates, in each quarter of 1896.

I estimate the population to the middle of the year to be 4,850, an increase of 50 on that of the preceding year.

The births registered have been 113, viz., 76 males and 37 females, equal to an annual birth-rate of 23·2 per 1000. The number of births registered and rate for the year 1895 were respectively 116 and 24·1 per 1000. The birth-rate keeps fairly high for a Rural District.

The annual death-rate is low, and has averaged about 15 per 1000 for the last ten years. During the year, 73 deaths, 31 of whom were males, and 42 were females, giving an annual rate of mortality per 1000 of 15, were recorded. The number of deaths and rate for the preceding year were 76, and 15·8 per 1000. Two deaths out of these 73 are attributed to the principal Zymotic Diseases, giving a Zymotic mortality of 0·4 per 1000 per annum, against four deaths and a Zymotic death-rate of 0·8 per 1000 for the year 1895.

Of the 73 deaths, nine of which are uncertified, 12 were those of infants under one year old, against 13 infants out of a total mortality of 76 for the previous year. The rate of infant mortality measured by the proportion of deaths under one year to births registered, is equal to 106·1 per 1000. The proportion of deaths among this class for the year 1895, to every 1000 births registered, was equal to 112·0 per 1000. Five deaths were those of children over one but under five years old; three were deaths over five and under 15 years; three were deaths 15 and under 25 years; eighteen were deaths 25 and under 60 years; and thirty-two were deaths 60 years and upwards. One case of sudden death was investigated by a Coroner's jury.

The Infectious Diseases reported to me under the "Notification Act" have been 24, viz., Scarlet Fever 17, Typhoid Fever 5, Diphtheria 1, and Erysipelas 1. Seven of these only were sent to the Fielden Hospital, and more than two-thirds were left at home to spread in the various localities in which they occurred.

The Fielden Hospital for Infectious Diseases was opened on the 24th July, 1895, and the Todmorden Rural District Council had the *privilege* of sending the first patient into it. It is well adapted, in my opinion, for the treatment of all cases of Infectious Disease arising within our District, except those of Smallpox, which are provided for at the Sourhall Hospital. It is disappointing after a year's trial to find, with such an excellent establishment as we have at Lee Bottom, that so few patients have availed themselves of it. If this Institution had not been presented to Todmorden by private beneficence, the Authorities would have been obliged to provide one at a very great cost to the ratepayers. We have now an Isolation Hospital built under the advice and guidance of leading sanitary experts. The drainage arrangements are imperfect, but these defects will admit of remedy when a scheme of sewerage has been completed for the neighbourhood. In a professional point of view, I desire to show that the difficulties of attending fever cases at the Fielden Hospital to medical men living in Hebden Bridge are great. A Typhoid case usually requires a period of six weeks daily attention. The distance from Hebden Bridge to Lee Bottom and back is about seven miles, which means travelling 50 miles a week for one patient. This is a great strain on the private work of any single man. In the interest of the public, and with the hope of attracting more Infectious Fevers to the Hospital, where every facility exists for their comfort and careful treatment. I beg to suggest, for this and other reasons, to the Combined

Authorities, that a single Medical Officer could do the work equally well, if not better, than a number of medical men following their individual cases there. Internal arrangements and general management would be more satisfactory. Difficulties which have occurred heretofore with regard to stimulants and diet, would be avoided, and the Medical Officer would be responsible to the various Councils who appointed him. This appointment need not interfere with any patients desiring their own medical attendant, whose services they could obtain by special and private agreement. Until some change of this nature is accomplished, I am afraid the efficacy and usefulness of the Fielden Hospital, for isolating and treating infectious diseases, as far as our district is concerned, will be limited.

Scarlet Fever commenced in Erringden in March, and spread to Heptonstall, Blackshaw, and Wadsworth, during the course of the year. Seventeen cases were notified, and four were sent to the Hospital. The disease was not of a severe type, and no deaths resulted.

Typhoid Fever.—We had five cases of this disorder during the year, three of which were treated at the Infectious Hospital. Three of these occurred in one house, in which grave sanitary defects were found; another happened where untrapped drains existed, and for the fifth I am unable to account.

A case of *Diphtheria* was reported at Pecketwell, and an untrapped drain was found close to the house.

An outbreak of *Measles* began in Colden on the 24th February, and spread rapidly until the 19th March. I visited the school on the latter date, and found 43 children absent, directly or indirectly, from this cause. The school was closed for three weeks, with the most favourable results, and no case was heard of in that district afterwards. Every precaution was adopted before the school was closed, but without any encouraging effect. There was a previous epidemic of Measles in the Colden District in June, 1894.

Influenza was prevalent during the first quarter of 1896, and two deaths are directly ascribed to it.

Of the remaining specified causes of death, four are due to Phthisis, nine to Heart Disease, and seventeen to Inflammatory Lung Affections, the latter in excess of preceding years.

The Inspector's Report is also appended, which will show the amount of sanitary work completed in the year 1896.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. LAWSON, B.A., M.B., Univ. Dub.,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Todmorden Rural District Council.

SANITARY WORK OF THE YEAR 1896.

Number of Complaints received during the year	17
Number of Inspections made	945
Orders issued for Sanitary Amendment of Houses and Premises..... .	16
Houses Cleansed and Disinfected	16
New House Drains laid	18
House Drains Repaired, Cleansed, &c.	10
House Drains Trapped and Disconnected	17
Privies Cleansed, &c.	2850
New Privies or Water Closets provided	7
Privies Repaired	6
New Ashpits provided	2
Removal of Ashes, &c., by Sanitary Staff (loads)	210
New Wells sunk for Water Supply to Houses	2
New Watertight Cesspools constructed	3
New Sewers laid (yards)	220
Dairies and Cowsheds Inspected	125
Samples of Drinking Water Analysed	1
Other Nuisances Abated	21
Patients Removed to Hospital	7
Legal Proceedings.....	1



Table No. 1.

Showing Deaths from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases for
Ten Years.

Year.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fevers.	Diarrhœa, and Dysentery, and Cholera.	Total.	Rate per 1000 per annum.
1887	0	1	2	0	0	3	2	8	1·09
1888	0	1	0	2	1	3	0	7	0·9
1889	0	8	0	1	2	0	0	11	1·4
1890	0	0	5	0	0	3	1	9	1·2
1891	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	6	0·9
1892	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0·2
1893	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0·4
1894	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	5	1·0
1895	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	4	0·8
1896	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0·4

Table No. 2.

Showing Mortality from all Causes for Ten Years at
Subjoined Ages.

Year.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 60	60 and upwards	Total.
1887	18	8	3	5	26	39	99
1888	13	8	5	6	30	59	121
1889	16	12	4	4	14	47	97
1890	17	10	9	8	29	42	115
1891	13	12	1	2	28	55	111
1892	13	5	1	6	22	40	87
1893	13	4	5	2	13	25	62
1894	11	8	3	4	17	26	69
1895	13	3	0	5	9	46	76
1896	12	5	3	3	18	32	73

Table No. 3.

Showing Births, Deaths, Birth-Rates, Death-rates, and number of Deaths under One Year, with Rate per 1,000 Births for Ten Years.

Year.	Estimated Population	Deaths under 1 year.		Births.	Deaths.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.
		No.	Rate per 1000 births				
1887	7,300	18	122·4	147	99	20·1	13·5
1888	7,350	13	73·8	176	121	23·9	16·4
1889	7,400	16	99·3	161	97	21·7	13·1
1890	7,400	17	105·5	161	115	21·7	15·5
1891	6,587	13	98·4	132	111	20·0	16·8
1892	4,745	13	149·4	87	87	18·3	18·3
1893	4,745	13	116·0	112	62	23·6	13·0
1894	4,800	11	115·7	95	69	19·7	14·3
1895	4,800	13	112·0	116	76	24·1	15·8
1896	4,850	12	106·1	113	73	23·2	15·0

Table No. 4.

Showing Mortality from different Classes of Disease for Ten Years.

Causes.	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	1	8	0	3	0	0	3	0	1
Scarlatina	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	0
Diphtheria	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Croup	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fevers	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	2	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rheumatic Fever	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Erysipelas	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pyæmia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	7	7	8	8	3	5	2	5	4	4
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	16	16	16	15	27	14	15	12	13	17
Heart	4	9	6	7	10	8	3	2	7	9
Injuries	1	1	2	2	3	2	0	1	0	0
Other Diseases	59	79	53	72	61	57	38	43	48	40
Total	99	121	97	115	111	87	62	69	76	73

Table No. 5.

Shewing the Births, Deaths from all Causes and from certain Special Causes, with Birth and Death-rates, in each Quarter of 1896.

Quarter ending	Births.	Deaths from all causes.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate	DEATHS FROM			
					Seven Princip'l Zymotic Diseases.	Phthisis.	Diseases of Lungs	Heart Disease.
March 31st.....	25	19	20·6	15·6	1	3	5	0
June 30th	34	22	28·0	18·1	0	0	8	3
September 30th	32	15	26·3	12·3	1	0	2	1
December 31st.	22	17	18·1	14·0	0	1	2	5
Total.....	113	73	23·2	15·0	2	4	17	9

Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.

Causes.	Under 5 Years of age.	Above 5 Years of age.
Smallpox	0	0
Scarlatina	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Membranous Croup	0	0
Typhus Fever	0	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	0
Continued Fever	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0
Cholera	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0
Measles	0	1
Whooping Cough.....	1	0
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	0	0
Rheumatic Fever.....	0	1
Phthisis	0	4
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	9	8
Heart Disease	0	9
Influenza	0	0
Injuries	0	0
All other Diseases	7	33
Total	17	56

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1896 in the Todmorden Rural Council District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Mortality from all Causes, at subjoined Ages :

Deaths: all ages	Under 1 Year	1 and 5 under 5	5 and 15 under 15	15 and 25 under 25	25 and 65 under 65	65 and up- wards
73	12	5	3	3	20	30

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1896, in the Todmorden Rural Council District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Population at all Ages, and Registered Births :

Census 1891	4745
Estimated to middle of 1896	4850
Registered Births.....	113

New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.

Causes.	Under 5 Years of age.	Above 5 Years of Age.
Smallpox	0	0
Scarlatina	2	15
Diphtheria.....	0	1
Membranous Croup	0	0
Typhus Fever	0	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	0	5
Continued Fever	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0
Cholera	0	0
Erysipelas	0	1

Number of such Cases removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital :

Under 5 Years of Age: Scarlatina—0.

Above 5 Years of Age: Scarlatina—4; Enteric or Typhoid Fever—3.

TABLE C. 1896.**Todmorden Rural Sanitary District Council.**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—J. LAWSON, M.B.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—Mr. EMMETT SMITH.

WATER SUPPLY—

Quantity—Adequate from private supplies.

Quality—Generally good.

Action on Lead?—None reported.

Any extensions or change during 1896?—Two new wells.

SEWERAGE—

System—Single.

Ventilation by lampholes and manholes.

Special flushing arrangements?—None.

Extensions or improvements during 1896?—220yds in Blackshaw.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

Treatment adopted—Chemical precipitation for Heptonstall.

SCAVENGING—

Are the privy middens, &c., cleansed by Sanitary Staff, by Contractors, or by Tenants?—Sanitary Staff in Heptonstall.

Is the present system satisfactory?—Yes.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS, AND REGULATIONS—

Date of adoption.

Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889—1st February, 1890.

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890—

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890— } 1st August, 1891.

Regulations under the Diaries, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders,
None.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.--

	Number.	General	Legal
	Registered.	Inspected.	Condition. Proceedings (if any.)
Common Lodging Houses	None
Canal Boats	79	79	Fair
Slaughter Houses ...	2	2	Satisfactory ...
Bakehouses	None
Dairies	125	125	Fair
Cowsheds			
Milkshops			
Offensive Trades	None

Schemes before Local Government Board—None.

Local Government Board Enquiries—None.

Local Government Board Inspections - None.

SPECIAL REPORTS—

Number made by Medical Officer of Health during 1896—23rd
March, 1896.

Have copies been forwarded to the County Council?—Yes.

BIRTHS—(a) Number of each Sex—76 Males and 37 Females.

(b) Number Illegitimate, included in the above—7.

(c) Any information as to Still-Births?—No.

DEATHS—(a) Number of each Sex—31 Males and 42 Females.

(b) Number Uncertified, included in the above—9.

DEATH RETURNS—

What correction (if any) is made for non-residents dying within the District?—None.

Are any Returns obtained of deaths of residents occurring in public institutions (Workhouses, Hospitals, &c.) outside the District?—No.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—

Any action during 1896?—No.

SANITARY WORK—

Number of Houses built during 1896—5.

House to House Inspection during 1896—None.

Total Number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1895—None.

Reported during 1896—82.

Abated during 1896—72.

Total Number of Summonses, or other Legal Proceedings—1.

House Drainage—Number of Sinks disconnected during 1896—35.

trapped during 1896—35.

CLOSETS—

Number constructed during 1896—7.

Kinds—3 Pails and 4 Water Closets.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters :—

Houses unfit for habitation—None.

Overcrowding—None.

Seizure of Unsound Food—None.

Prosecutions—1.

Samples under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts—None.

Prosecutions—None.

River Pollution—None.

Smoke Abatement—None.

Workshops—None.

Schools—None.

Burial Grounds—None.



